

PAC GENERAL MEETING

April 21, 2010

Executive in Attendance: Shannon Derksen, Nandita Narayan, Lynne Vidler, Zena Kwan, Jen Mezei, Siva Ramesh, Patricia Narvaez.

Regrets: Keith Chong, Abby Wong, Denise Hayhurst.

Meeting started at 7:02pm

- Approval of the March General meeting minutes – Zena Kwan 1st, Siva Ramesh 2nd.

Chairperson's Report – Nandita Narayan

- Carnival funds – \$3200 will be taken off the top for the purchase of Sound Systems. The remainder of the carnival funds will be split equally between IT upgrades and sports/music programs. Nandita asked for feedback from parents on what kind of sports/music programs we should get. These programs will start as a lunchtime program; for example, we can hire someone to do an expanded version of terrific Tuesdays.
- Some music program ideas from parents included: purchasing sheet music (for plays) and instruments for the music teacher. The instruments are something that could be used on an every-day basis. Exposing kids to cultural diversity through sports and music is desirable. We need to talk to the music teacher first.
- Regarding the choir vests, a question arose as to who would clean vests and someone suggested parents could buy vests if desired.
- Some sports program ideas from parents: Capoeira, Burnaby Mountain karate, Shiamak/SDI School of Dance (bollywood/fusion type dance), lunchtime activities organized by a student from SFU/Douglas College, inline skating/golf for a week and all kids participate (suggestion from guest speaker). A golf association can come into the school (contact information can be sent to Lynne V.)
- We can start off with one program of each (sport and music), we can also 5\$ per child for 4-? Sessions (this will ensure a serious response).
- If there are any additional ideas please email them to Nandita.
- Carnival Committee (Zena Kwan): save the date – June 11th Friday, 3:30pm to 7:30pm. Please watch for newsletters regarding carnival the first week of May. Please also watch for the volunteer forms that will be sent home with the Carnival package.
- Parent Speaker series: May 5th 7pm – last speaker series for the year – Canada Customs and the school liaison officer Joanne Kaminski will do a combined session on Drug Awareness. They will be bringing in samples of old/new drugs to show us what they look like/what to watch for. This session will be open to entire district. J. Kaminski will also touch on gangs and their relationships with drugs.

Save the date, bulletin to come out in next few days. Bring you questions, spread the word.

- 2010/2011 PAC Executive: All positions (e.g. Chair, Vice-chair, Treasurer, Secretary, etc.), except CPF reps, will be vacant. It is unknown whether our Traffic Safety reps will be staying on. Please consider volunteering on the PAC executive next year.

Treasurer's Report – Abby Wong
See attached

Principal's Report - Keith Chong (read by Nandita Narayan)

Spirit Day

- Volunteers for the day still needed. Keith will also let PAC know how many he needs,

DPCP Report – Jen Mezei

- Some key resolutions were passed at the BCCPAC. The purpose of these resolutions was to promote student rights. There was a resolution about special needs children: urging ministry to mandate Districts to prescreen students for behavioral learning challenges early to ensure timely detection (kids need to be assessed before grade 7). There was also a resolution about funding and learning differences: need to bring back more funding for more learning differences; funding that may now be lacking due to budget deficits.
- The DPAC minutes will be condensed and sent to Nandita.
- Information regarding the Burnaby District budget cuts: there will be ~10 million dollars in cuts for the Burnaby District next year. Some of the cuts include cutting non-enrolling teachers, resource teachers at District level, CUPE workers and maintenance staff (cut some hours). Budget will be approved at the next board meeting.
- Terms of Reference regarding special needs education – parent participants are both parents from Seaforth. More information on special needs needed on District website such as basic information for parents of special needs children on: what questions to ask, what the procedures are, and overall more parent education.

Traffic Safety Committee

- No one present.

Health & Nutrition Committee

- No one present.

Hot Lunch Committee

- No one present.

CPF Rep – Siva Ramesh

- Due to a technicality, the \$250 donation to this year's French Carnival could not be accessed. There will be \$250 dollars set aside next year for this event.

Disaster preparedness Committee

- May 7th – the Burnaby Fire Department will no longer be helping set up the tarp shelter; **Keith is looking for help to set up this station and others. If you can help, please contact Keith ASAP.**

NEW BUSINESS

- None

Meeting adjourned ~7:30pm

Parent presentation: “Born to Buy” – please see attached handouts from meeting.